

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

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TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

USCOMSOLANT/CTF 86 IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK PRIORITY

CHINFO PRIORITY

OASD PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEFENSE DEPT PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CI

SUBJECT: STATE DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT

SPOKESMAN AND TRANSCRIPT OF NOON PRESS BRIEFING, SEPTEMBER

17

THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR USE BY THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, SEPTEMBER 17, AND IS TRANSMITTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND POSSIBLE USE IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS (NO QUESTIONS ASKED AT BRIEFING):

Q. DOES THE U.S. GOVERNMENT NOW HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

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WITH THE MILITARY JUNTA IN CHILE?

A: WE HAVE RECEIVED A NOTE ANNOUNCING THE FORMATION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT. WE ARE STUDYING THIS NOTE AND HAVE NOT YET REPLIED.

Q: HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONTACT BETWEEN OUR EMBASSY AND THE JUNTA?

A: NO OFFICIAL CONTACT. THERE HAS BEEN ROUTINE CONTACT BETWEEN U.S. EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND VARIOUS CHILEAN OFFICIALS, OUR CONSULAR OFFICERS, FOR INSTANCE, HAVE HAD TO COMMUNICATE WITH CHILEAN OFFICIALS IN DISCHARGING THEIR RESPONSIBILITY CONCERNING THE WELFARE OF AMERICAN CITIZENS.

Q: HAVE AMERICAN CITIZENS BEEN KILLED OR SERIOUSLY INJURED IN THE UPRISING?

A: WE HAVE NO REPORT OF AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVING BEEN KILLED OR INJURED IN THE FIGHTING.

Q: HAVE ANY AMERICANS BEEN DETAINED?

A: WE KNOW OF THREE AMERICANS UNDER DETENTION: ADAM SCHESCH, HIS WIFE PATRICIA GARRETT SCHESCH, AND ARTHUR MICHAEL CONNING. OUR CONSULAR OFFICERS HAVE ASKED CHILEAN AUTHORITIES TO BE PERMITTED TO SEE THEM. WE UNDERSTAND SIX OTHERS WERE DETAINED AND RELEASED.

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THE NEW YORK TIMES STORY OF SATURDAY THAT THE JUNTA DELIBERATELY KEPT ITS PLAN FOR THE COUP FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO PREVENT ANY POSSIBILITY OF OUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE OVERTHROW OF ALLENDE?

A: I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THAT REPORT, BUT, AS YOU KNOW, I SAID LAST WEEK THAT WE WERE NOT FOREWARNED.

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US OF THE REPORT ON TELEVISION LAST THURSDAY NIGHT (BY JOHN CHANCELLOR) THAT THERE WERE U.S. AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT IN THE AIR OVER MENDOZA, ARGENTINA, ON THE BORDER WITH CHILE, ON THE MORNING OF THE COUP.
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A: I REFER YOU TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ON SUCH MATTERS.

Q: DID THE U.S., AS A WASHINGTON POST WRITER CONTENDED, "STRANGLE" THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT BY CUTTING OFF ACCESS TO U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL CREDITS?

A: THIS IS NOT CORRECT.

THE U.S. REDUCED ITS LENDING TO CHILE EVEN BEFORE ALLENDE TOOK OFFICE IN NOVEMBER 1970. AFTER PRESIDENT ALLENDE TOOK OFFICE, WE CONTINUED DISBURSEMENTS OF EXISTING AID LOANS AND CHILE DID NOT REQUEST ANY NEW LOANS.

WE DID NOT, AS REPORTED, REFUSE AN EX-IM LOAN TO CHILE IN AUGUST 1971. AT THE TIME, EX-IM DID ASK FOR INFORMATION ON CHILE'S ECONOMIC POLICIES PERTINENT TO THE BANK RESPONSIBILITIES, SINCE ASSURANCE OF REPAYMENT IS FUNDAMENTAL.

THERE ARE ONGOING U.S. ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN CHILE: OUR GRANTING OF FOOD SHIPMENTS UNDER PL 480 HAS AMOUNTED TO SOME DOLS 10 MILLION TO THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT; WE HAVE PROVIDED GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR TRAINING ABROAD AND FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. THE PEACE CORPS WORKS IN CHILE. ADDITIONALLY, WE PROVIDED SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF RELIEF (DOLS 255,000) IN THE WAKE OF THE STORMS AND EARTHQUAKE OF MID-1971.

AS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, THEY ARE INDEPENDENT BODIES WHICH HAVE THEIR OWN LENDING CRITERIA. PRIVATE BANKS AND OTHER PRIVATE U.S. ENTITIES ARE ENTIRELY FREE TO MAKE DECISIONS AS THEY PERCEIVE IN THEIR SELF-INTEREST.
(END GUIDANCE).

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF NOON BRIEFING BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN:

Q: HAVE YOU HAD ANY ADDITIONAL CONTACTS OVER THE WEEKEND WITH THE JUNTA IN CHILE, AND CAN WE EXPECT THE U.S. AMBASSADOR IN MEXICO TO PAY A CONDOLENCE CALL ON THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WIDOW OF THE LATE PRESIDENT OF CHILE?

A: WITH REFERENCE TO CONTACTS IN CHILE, NOTHING, I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER THEN WHAT I SAID ON FRIDAY, I BELIEVE. I ASSUME SOME OF THESE ROUTINE AND WHAT WE CONSIDER TO BE UNOFFICIAL CONTACTS HAVE CONTINUED OVER THE WEEKEND.

WITH RESPECT TO MEXICO CITY, I REALLY JUST DON'T KNOW. I'M NOT AWARE OF ANY SUCH CONDOLENCE VISIT AT THIS TIME. BUT I REALLY DONT HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER ON IT.

Q: DO YOU THINK YOU WILL GET INSTRUCTIONS TO PAY SUCH A VISIT?

A: I DON'T KNOW (END TRANSCRIPT).

DECONTROL DECEMBER 17, 1973. RUSH

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